



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,474	07/11/2003	Nobukazu Kurauchi	72478-9500	5306

21611 7590 12/16/2009
SNELL & WILMER LLP (OC)
600 ANTON BOULEVARD
SUITE 1400
COSTA MESA, CA 92626

EXAMINER

LEIJA, JAMES

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2423

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

12/16/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Applicant's arguments filed 11/24/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants provides arguments directed towards the independent claims' limitation

"the transmission unit **checks whether a reference frame of a frame** to be transmitted after resuming transmission of the video data has been transmitted or not, and if the reference frame has not been transmitted, transmits the substitute I frame data to the reception terminal for the frame for which the reference frame has not been transmitted before resuming transmission of the video data.". (emphasis on bolded portion)

Applicant on page 16 has interpreted this limitation as checking subsequent inter-coded frames after an initial frame.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. While the claim limitation doesn't exclude this interpretation, the claim language merely requires the checking a reference frame.

Bourne discloses on page 6 paragraph [0068] and figure 6 step 630 the encoder checking to see whether and Intra-coded frame has already been transmitted. This reads on the limitation of "the transmission unit **checks whether a reference frame of a frame** to be transmitted...", as an I-frame is "**a reference frame of a frame**".

/Andrew Y Koenig/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2423